

Chapter 17: The Transatlantic Economy, Trade Wars, and Colonial Rebellion

Reading and Study Guide

(Divide and Conquer)

Taking the time to do a study guide well reduces the time required to study well for an exam. As you invest, so shall you prosper....

BIG QUESTIONS: (as you work through the chapter, keep these questions in mind)

1. What and where were Europe's mercantilist empires?
2. Why did Spain have a vast colonial empire in the Americas?
3. What was the relationship among Africa, slavery, and the transatlantic plantation economies?
4. What were the wars of the mid-18th century in Europe and the colonies?
5. What was the struggle for independence in Britain's North American colonies?

Introduction

The middle of the 18th century witnessed a renewal of European warfare on a world-wide scale. The conflict involved two separate, but interrelated, rivalries. Austria and Prussia fought for dominance in central Europe, while Great Britain and France dueled for commercial and colonial supremacy. This is a good study of point-of-view. Who was George Washington? an *insurgent*? a *patriot*? a *traitor*? a hero? anti-hero? As we continue our studies, ***without thinking like Americans***, these are the questions that you will ponder. And know this; France lost America on the plains of Germany....

Introduction through Colonial Reform under the Spanish Bourbon Monarchs

pages 550-557

1. List (briefly), the 4 stages of European colonialism.
2. What were the individual "boundaries of empire" of the *principal* European states in the 18th century?
3. Upon what central proposal did MERCANTILIST policy rest? Why did mercantilist policies work better on paper than in practice?
4. What role did India play in the French and British rivalry?
5. Describe the *rigidity* built in to the Spanish control over their American holdings.
6. How did the course of Spanish control of American colonial holdings change under the BOURBONS, especially Charles III and what were the negative and positive consequences?

Black African Slavery, the Plantation System, and the Atlantic Economy through The Experience of Slavery

pages 557-568

1. What factors necessitated and encouraged the growth of SLAVERY in new world colonies of the major European powers?
2. Identify the "other" factors that encouraged the growth of slavery at this time.
3. Characterize the daily life of slaves in the European colonies, as well as general European attitudes toward slaves and the institution of slavery.
4. What is "history painting," and how does Copley's Watson and the Shark epitomize this *genre*?

Mini-Dictionary ☺

Insurgent: rebelling against authority or leadership, especially against a government or ruler of a country

Patriot: a proud supporter or defender of his or her country and its way of life

Traitor: somebody who is disloyal or treacherous

Principal: first or among the first in importance or rank

Mercantilism: an early modern European economic theory and system that actively supported the establishment of colonies that would supply materials and markets and relieve home nations of dependence on other nations

Proposal: an idea, offer, or plan put forward for consideration or discussion

Rigidity: applied or carried out strictly, with no allowances or exceptions

Genre: one of the categories, based on form, style, or subject matter, into which artistic works of all kinds can be divided. For example, the detective novel is a genre of fiction

Mid-Eighteenth-Century Wars through In Perspective

pages 569-580

Prompt: to cause something to happen

Watershed: an important period, time, event, or factor that marks a change or division

1. What prompted the WAR OF JENKINS' EAR, and why is it so named?
2. What prompted the WAR OF THE AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION? How did Maria Theresa preserve the Hapsburg Empire?
3. What proved to be one of the most fateful decisions in French history, and why?
4. What were the terms of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle?
5. Describe the so-called "diplomatic revolution" of 1756?
6. What events prompted the opening of the SEVEN YEARS' WAR? What role did the Prussian emperor play in its initiation? How did the War's European theater come to a close?
7. Who was WILLIAM PITT, and how did he "win America on the plains of Germany?"
8. In what sense was the Seven Years' War the First World War?
9. In what sense(s) was/were the Seven Years' War and the TREATY OF PARIS a *watershed* (for different reasons, of course) for Great Britain, France, Prussia, and Spain?
10. What two imperial problems faced the British after the Seven Years' War? What was the American colonial position with regard to these problems? (...wars are expensive...)

Dear Students: You already know the background, from the American viewpoint, of the events leading up to our Revolution and independence from Britain...it is now time to learn the other side (balanced knowledge)....

11. What was the STAMP ACT CRISIS? In what way did this crisis set a pattern for colonial/British relations up to the outbreak of the revolution?
12. To what extent were American grievances against the British valid? To what extent were the grievances unjustified?
13. From what European sources did the Americans draw their political ideology?
14. Explain the rationality of GEORGE III's reign and the Wilkes affair to growing American colonial resentment of the British?
15. What movement did the American Revolution inspire in Europe? Describe it and its KEY figures.

Practice TEST:

1. European contacts with the rest of the world have passed through how many distinct stages?
 - a. 3
 - b. 4
 - c. 5
 - d. 6
2. Which of the following would *not* be considered a foundation of pre-twentieth century colonial development?
 - a. National prestige
 - b. New mineral resources
 - c. Trade
 - d. Military strategy
3. The most influential part of the Spain's efforts to control trade with her possessions in the New World was the
 - a. Viceroy
 - b. *Flota* system
 - c. *Casa de Contratación*
 - d. *Peninsulares*
4. Which of the following cities was not a center of the Atlantic slave trade?
 - a. Amsterdam
 - b. Liverpool
 - c. Newport, Rhode Island
 - d. Nantes
5. Empress Maria Theresa's arrangements with the ____ preserved the state in the 18th century but actually hampered later development
 - a. Prussians
 - b. Turks
 - c. Poles
 - d. Magyars

6. Which of the following treaties was negotiated first?
 - a. Treaty of Paris
 - b. Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle
 - c. Treaty of Westphalia
 - d. Treaty of Utrecht
7. The root causes of the American colonial revolt against Great Britain was
 - a. concern with imperial taxation
 - b. concern over imperial policy toward western lands
 - c. the growth of the colonial economy
 - d. all of these
8. Initially, the Second Continental Congress was
 - a. belligerent
 - b. promonarchy
 - c. conciliatory
 - d. none of these
9. Which of the following documents had the most effect on the American struggle for independence?
 - a. *The Treaty of Paris*
 - b. *Convention of Westminster*
 - c. *Common Sense*
 - d. *The North Briton*
10. After the American Revolution, British trade with her former colonies
 - a. stopped altogether
 - b. increased
 - c. decreased
 - d. remained the same
11. What was chiefly responsible for European dominance over so much of the world from the 16th-19th centuries?
 - a. innate cultural superiority
 - b. technological advantage
 - c. increased emphasis on learning and universities
 - d. advantageous diplomacy
12. Because of the intense rivalries of mercantilist powers and the practical inefficiency of the system, the 18th century has been termed
 - a. "the century of greed"
 - b. "the golden age of smugglers"
 - c. "the era of competition and corruption"
 - d. none of the above
13. The East India Company was developed by
 - a. the Dutch
 - b. French entrepreneurs in England
 - c. East Indian businessmen
 - d. the English
14. European trading posts in India were called
 - a. Magyars
 - b. *asiento*
 - c. factories
 - d. both b and c
15. The responsibility of the Casa de Contratacion was to
 - a. act as a consultative body for the Viceroy
 - b. maintain control of the sea lanes
 - c. act as a court of appeals in the New World
 - d. regulate trade with the New World
16. Frederick II's invasion of Silesia
 - a. violated the Treaty of Utrecht
 - b. upset the continental balance of power
 - c. shattered the provisions of the Pragmatic Sanction
 - d. all of the above

17. The Convention of Westminster in 1756

- a. was an offensive alliance between Austria and Great Britain
- b. was a defensive alliance between Great Britain and Prussia
- c. was part of the "Diplomatic Revolution" and was an alliance between Great Britain and Austria
- d. both a and c

18. George III's political aim was to

- a. establish a tyranny in North America
- b. establish tyranny in Britain
- c. reassert the king's influence in government
- d. cooperate with the leading Whigs

answers:

- 1. b
- 2. b
- 3. c
- 4. a
- 5. d
- 6. c
- 7. d
- 8. c
- 9. c
- 10. b
- 11. b
- 12. b
- 13. d
- 14. c
- 15. d
- 16. d
- 17. b
- 18. c